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DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGIES

Annual report of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer

Note by the Chair of the EGTT

Summary

The terms of reference of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT), contained in the appendix to the annex to decision 4/CP.7, requested the EGTT to report on its work each year to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and propose a programme of work for the following year for decision by the SBSTA. This report covers the activities of the EGTT since its establishment by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session, including on technology needs assessments and technology information systems, and outlines its future activities.

The Parties may wish to consider the report of the EGTT, in particular the possible recommendations to be considered by the SBSTA at its seventeenth session, with a view of providing further guidance to the EGTT in the implementation of its work programme for the biennium 2002–2003.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties, at its seventh session, by its decision 4/CP.7, established the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT), with members to be nominated by Parties, with the objective of enhancing implementation of Article 4, paragraph 5, of the Convention. The terms of reference of the EGTT, contained in the appendix to the annex to the same decision, specified that the EGTT shall report on its work each year to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and propose a programme of work for the following year for decision by the SBSTA (FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1, decision 4/CP.7, annex, appendix, para. 3).

2. At its sixteenth session, the SBSTA adopted the work programme of the EGTT for the biennium 2002–2003 and requested it to take into account the views submitted by Parties during the session and to provide a brief report on the progress of its work to the SBSTA at its seventeenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/2002/6, paragraph 38 (b)).

B. Scope of the note

3. This note reports on the activities of the EGTT during 2002, including organizational matters, such as the election of its officers, the establishment of its rules of procedures and the development of its work programme for the biennium. This report was prepared by the Chair of the EGTT, with the assistance of the secretariat, in consultation with the Co-Chair of the EGTT.

II. REPORT OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

A. Introduction

4. The EGTT has met twice since its establishment by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session (COP 7). The preparatory meeting took place in Seoul, Republic of Korea, and the first meeting was held in Bonn, in conjunction with the sixteenth session of the SBSTA. This brief report outlines the results of these two meetings and other activities of the EGTT, including its involvement in the expert workshop on technology information and the expert meeting on methodologies for technology needs assessments. Because the work programme of the EGTT was adopted only at SBSTA 16, some of the activities launched in 2002 are ongoing and will be reported to future sessions of the SBSTA.

B. Preparatory meeting of the EGTT

5. At its fifteenth session, the SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize a preparatory meeting of the EGTT to enable the group to develop its programme of work for further consideration by the SBSTA at its sixteenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/2001/8, para. 33 (e)). The preparatory meeting of the EGTT held on 22 April 2002 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, focused on organizational matters, including the election of officers and initial discussions on the rules of procedures and possible elements of the work programme.

6. The opening session of the preparatory meeting was presided over by Mr. Halldor Thorgeirsson, Chair of the SBSTA. After the opening session, the EGTT elected Mr. Jukka Uosukainen (Finland) as its Chair and Mr. William Kojo Agyemang-Bonsu (Ghana) as its Vice-Chair for the year 2002.

7. The secretariat then briefed the EGTT on the status of work on technology information systems and technology needs assessments. The members considered the secretariat's oral report on the results of the expert workshop on technology information held in Beijing, China, from 18 to 19 April 2002, and

took note of possible inclusion of this activity into the work programme of the EGTT. They also noted the status of preparations for the expert meeting on methodologies for technology needs assessments to be held from 23 to 25 April 2002 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, immediately after the preparatory meeting of the EGTT. The reports of the expert workshop on technology information and of the expert meeting on methodologies for technology needs assessments were considered at the first meeting of the EGTT in Bonn in June 2002.

8. The EGTT exchanged views on possible elements of a work programme for the biennium. To identify possible elements of the work programme, the EGTT considered the themes and activities outlined in the framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of Article 4.5 of the Convention, contained in the annex to decision 4/CP.7. The EGTT requested the secretariat to prepare a draft work programme to be used by members as a working document at its first meeting.

9. Initial deliberations on the draft rules of procedures of the EGTT focused on the process for selecting the three members from relevant international organizations and on arrangements for the attendance of observers and resource persons at its meetings. As there was no consensus among the members on the issue of observers, the EGTT agreed to continue its deliberations on this matter at its first meeting.

10. The EGTT agreed to establish, at its first meeting, a web-based forum to enhance communication and the exchange of views among members, and to continue discussions on the issues taken up at the preparatory meeting and on the nomination of three representatives from relevant international organizations. The secretariat was requested to facilitate the setting up of the web-based forum.

C. First meeting of EGTT

11. The first meeting of the EGTT took place on 3 and 8 June 2002 in conjunction with the sixteenth session of the SBSTA. The EGTT continued its discussion of the rules of procedures, in particular regarding attendance of observers at its meetings. Consultations among the members were held on this issue but no consensus was reached. The Chair of the EGTT, therefore, decided to refer this matter to the Chair of the SBSTA for his further guidance and action. The Chair of the SBSTA reported the matter to the Bureau at its meeting on 11 June 2002.

12. The Chair, in consultation with the members of the EGTT, invited representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Energy Agency, represented by the Climate Technology Initiative, to the meeting to fill the positions of representatives of three relevant international organizations (FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1, decision 4/P.7, annex, appendix, para. 4). Representatives from the Global Environment Facility and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations were invited to serve as resource persons. Ms. Margaret Martin from Canada also joined the meeting as a new member of the EGTT, replacing Ms. Jean Cooper who resigned in May 2002.

13. The discussions at this meeting concentrated mainly on the development of a work programme; members exchanged views on the elements of a work programme and on each of the five themes identified in the technology transfer framework. Three sub-groups were formed to work in detail on the various elements. After thorough deliberation, the EGTT finalized its work programme for the biennium 2002–2003 on 8 June, and the SBSTA considered and adopted the programme at its sixteenth session. The work programme is contained in annex II to FCCC/SBSTA/2002/6.

14. The terms of reference of the EGTT stipulate that half of the members of the expert group nominated initially shall serve for a period of three years, taking into account the need to maintain the overall balance of the group. Every year thereafter, half of the members shall be nominated for a period

of two years (FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1, decision 4/CP.7, annex, appendix, para. 4). At the concluding session, the members confirmed the following tenures of its members:

Three years

Mr. Anthony Olusegun Adegbulugbe (Nigeria)

Mr. William Kojo Agyemang-Bonsu (Ghana)

Mr. Imran Habib Ahmad (Pakistan)

Mr. Richard Bradley (United States of America)

Mr. Carlos A. Grezzi (Uruguay)

Mr. Holger Liptow (Germany)

Ms. Margaret Martin (Canada)

Mr. Bernard Mazijn (Belgium)

Mr. Suk-Hoon Woo (Republic of Korea)

Two years

Ms. Martha Yvette Munguí de Aguilar (El Salvador)

Mr. Lambert Gnapelet (Central African Republic)

Mr. Kishan Kumarsingh (Trinidad and Tobago)

Mr. Viacheslav Lipinsky (Ukraine)

Mr. Rawleston Moore (Barbados)

Mr. Jukka Uosukainen (Finland)

Mr. Vute Wangwacharakul (Thailand)

Ms. Renata Cybulska-Witkiewicz (Poland)

15. The EGTT agreed on the calendar of future meetings of the EGTT for 2002–2003. It was decided to have a two-day meeting in New Delhi on 20–21 October prior to SBSTA 17; the arrangements for this meeting could include a one-day EGTT event for an initial exchange of views on the issue of enabling environments. The remaining meetings for the biennium will take place in conjunction with SBSTA 18 and SBSTA 19.

D. Intersessional work relating to technology information systems and technology needs assessments

16. The EGTT took part in the expert workshop on technology information held in Beijing, China, 18–19 April 2002, and provided input to the agenda and to the report contained in FCCC/SBSTA/2002/INF.6. Based on the work programme, the activities on technology information systems will begin at SBSTA 17 with the outreach programme on TT:CLEAR and the client survey and assessment of the effectiveness of the technology information systems, and will end at SBSTA 19 with recommendations on how to further improve the technology information systems.

17. The initial work of the EGTT on technology needs assessments involved the participation of the EGTT in the expert meeting on methodologies for technologies needs assessments held on 22–25 April 2002 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The EGTT was involved in the development of the agenda and in reviewing the report of the expert meeting. As a follow-up to this expert meeting, the EGTT is actively engaged in the review of the technical proposal of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to develop a handbook on methodologies for technology needs assessments.

E. Future meetings of the EGTT

18. The second EGTT meeting will take place on 20–21 October 2002 in New Delhi, India, where a number of items contained in the work programme will be discussed and decided by the group. In line with the mandate of the EGTT to analyse and identify ways of facilitating and advancing technology transfer activities, the members will discuss the following matters in order to draft possible recommendations to be considered by the SBSTA at its seventeenth session:

- Encouragement of international organizations to develop a procedure for expediting technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for technology needs assessments;

- Encouragement of the UNDP–Global Environment Facility support programme to complete the handbook for assessing technology needs, including dissemination to national climate change coordinators, in collaboration with countries and other organizations, such as the Climate Technology Initiative;

- Encouragement of UNDP and other international organizations to organize regional workshops (in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Eastern Europe/former Soviet Union) to assess the use of the handbook for assessing technology needs and to improve access to information in existing global and regional/thematic networks and clearing houses;

- A request to the Chair of the SBSTA, with the assistance of the secretariat, in consultation with the EGTT, to organize a workshop to explore the various facets of enabling environments and to report on the workshop to the SBSTA at its eighteenth session;

- Enhancement of existing technology information centres and networks.